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Sunrise service at chapel



PENNY COLES Niagara Advance

Rick Meloan is one of a group of volunteers who looks after the Living Water Wayside Chapel on the Niagara River Parkway. He is also a member of the NOTL Bicentennial Committee. He will deliver the Easter Sunrise Service message at the chapel Sunday morning, dressed as Rev. John Burns, a presbyterian minister in Niagara during the War of 1812. For story see page 2.

Easter Bunny hopping to town

➤ Niagara Nursery School hosts Bunny Trail Spring Fair Saturday

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

The Easter Bunny is on the way to Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Families can celebrate her arrival with the traditional egg hunt provided by the Kinsmen Club and The Bunny Trail Spring Fair, hosted by Niagara Nursery School and now in its 17th year.

Both events will be held at the new Anderson Lane Community Centre Saturday, the egg hunt outdoors rain or shine, and the Bunny Trail a combination of activities outside, in the community centre auditorium, and the nursery school room.

There will be a special guest appearance by Crystal Bunny, who will be there for the egg hunt and the spring fair activities.

See Page 3



Rangers win provincial gold

Atom girls bring home championship



August concert cancelled

Just one concert at Butler's Barracks to concern residents

Peewee Wolves lose to Whitby

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Celebrate Easter sunrise at new home of Wayside Chapel

Living Water chapel welcomes visitors to its new location

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

The tiny chapel by the Niagara River will hold its first Easter sunrise service at its new location Sunday.

It can be a beautiful morning at the Living Water Wayside Chapel, with the sun coming up over the Niagara River, says Rick Meloen of the Niagara Falls Christian Reformed Church.

Meloen is one of many volunteers who helps maintain the chapel, which was moved last June to the Niagara River Parkway property of Walkers Farm

Market at Line 1, from the site it had occupied for more than 40 years near Line 8.

Meloen will present an Easter message at the brief outdoor service, which usually attracts about 70 to 80 people.

Members of the church have been watching over the chapel, organizing an annual Easter service, scheduling about 30 weddings a year and offering a place for tourists and locals to stop for a quiet moment of worship or a quick photo, since it was built as a tool for evangelism in 1964.

Jim Walker of Walker's Farm Market read an article in the Advance last spring that said the chapel must be relocated, and offered a corner of his property—not co-incidentally the chapel's first home.

But after four years at its

original location, it was moved—it was an out-of-the-way spot in those days, and the chapel, which has always been open 24 hours a day, was too remote for any protection from vandalism. It was moved to Line 8 so church members who lived nearby could keep their eyes on it.

Walker said just before he read the Advance article and knew the chapel needed a new home, he had been talking to his wife Donna about his memories of it on the Walker property when he was a young boy.

When he learned that a new location was being sought, he offered the farm market property, where there is parking available.

There were other offers, but that location had the feel of returning the chapel to its original home, volunteers from the church

decided.

Meloen, an avid history buff and active with the Niagara-on-the-Lake War of 1812 Bicentennial Committee, will deliver his Easter message in costume—he often appears around town as Rev. John Burns, who was the minister at the Presbyterian Meeting House during the War of 1812.

The Simcoe St. church, on the same property now occupied by St. Andrew's, was burned to the ground by American soldiers in August 1813, before the burning of Niagara, and Burns was taken prisoner.

The Americans claimed the church steeple was being used as an observation post by the townspeople.

"I imagine Burns was a feisty Scot," said Meloen, "and he wouldn't have been

too happy about the burning of his church. In fact most of the able-bodied men in town were taken prisoner at that point."

Although Meloen says he doesn't like to miss an opportunity to help promote the bicentennial, it will be an Easter message he delivers Sunday, not a history lesson, hopefully on a beautiful morning that makes it a joy to watch the sun rise, he says. There have been years when it snowed during the service, and one in its 35-year-plus history when it got rained out.

"Nobody knows exactly when we started the sunrise service, but I've been married 34 years and I know it goes back before that."

The Easter Sunrise Service will be held Sunday, March 31 at 7 a.m.

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Bunny Trail major fundraiser

From Page 1

The Bunny Trail is a fundraiser for the not-for-profit nursery school and child care centre, which has operated as a parent-run co-operative for more than 40 years, says supervisor Patricia Couroux.

Currently 44 children are enrolled in the nursery school and child care centre at the Anderson Lane community centre, with four certified early childhood educators providing daily programming. Families can enrol children at 27 months of age.

Couroux says the school's major fundraiser usually attracts about 2,000 people and makes about \$10,000 to fund new resources for the kids and equipment for the school. A portion is also put aside each year for future emergencies, she adds.

This year, some of the money will be used to purchase a dishwasher, allow-

ing the school, which now relies on throw-away paper plates and plastic cutlery, to be more eco-friendly.

The Bunny Trail is a great family event with something to offer all ages, says Couroux. New this year is a scavenger hunt, and there will be several outdoor inflatable bouncy activities to ensure even toddlers can have fun with them.

There will be the usual barbecue outside, and the playground will be open.

Inside will be arts and crafts for kids, chicks and bunnies, children's games, London Reptiles, a gently-used book sale, face painting, a silent auction, a raffle draw and a bake sale that will include chocolate Easter treats.

The raffle prizes include a Great Wolf Lodge overnight stay for family of four, Vine and Dine packages for two, and deluxe accommodation for two at the Shaw Club Hotel and spa.

Sara Wiens, Bunny Trail committee chair, calls the festival the family event of the season. The egg hunt is "a frenzy of fun," she says—be there at 10 a.m. sharp because once started with the egg hunt unfolds with lightning speed.

The Spring Fair, she says, "is a bit of a miracle—made possible by a hive of hard working community members and volunteers."

The Bunny Trail Spring Fair and Kinsmen Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, March 30, rain or shine, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Centre on Anderson Lane.

PENNY COLES

Niagara Advance

Jack Robinson and Eliana McManus paint Easter eggs to decorate the Niagara Nursery School room at the community centre for their



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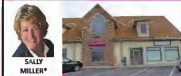
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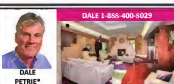


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SALLY MCGARR***

Summer concert organizers try to appease opponents

➤ Second concert to be cancelled, promoter tells residents

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

"Not in Niagara-on-the-Lake."

"Not in our backyards." There was no satisfying a small group of residents who attended a meeting Monday to discuss a summer concert at Butler's Barracks.

About 30 people at the community centre learned they have only one year to contend with this summer—the June 29 concert headlined by St. Catharines'

Dallas Green, who records and performs as City and Colour.

Concert promoter Elliott Lefko offered what was received as good news to residents, that the second concert slated for the August long weekend will be moved to Toronto.

Ticket sales are indicating Niagara-on-the-Lake may not be the best location for the eclectic lineup of international bands scheduled for the August concert, he said.

The June event is expected to attract about 15,000 people, and concert organizers, with Jarred Picher of Parks Canada, which is leasing the site to host the event, were at the community centre to listen to residents' concerns.

Earlier in the day they met with business owners to see what they could do to mitigate the negative impact on businesses last summer during the Tragically Hip concert on the same site—other than those attending the concert, people avoided the town on what should have been a busy day for local businesses, said Picher.

Although many residents and business owners have commended organizers for the good job they did at last year's Hip concert, Picher admitted it wasn't flawless, and said there were lessons learned and improvements that will make this year's event run even more smoothly.

Parking and the entrance to the concert will be con-

tained on Parks Canada property, he said.

There is no plan to close roads, use shuttle buses or issue permits to residents so they can get to their own driveway.

Lefko apologized several times for some of the issues that surfaced regarding last year's concert: he said organizers will do a better job of controlling parking and traffic, of cleaning up outside the concert area, and of ensuring more police and security stick around after the concert.

He asked residents to allow him a second chance to correct some of the errors that were made last year.

"We have to learn. We want to learn," he said.

"If I come back here and I don't make things better, if I screw up a second time, then maybe I shouldn't be doing shows here. But please give me the benefit of the doubt. I'm trying, really trying to make things better this year."

But some residents wouldn't be placated.

"We live in a quaint, quiet town. We want it to stay that way," said one resident of the Charlotte St. Park Court neighbourhood.

Some asked why Parks Canada would choose to lease their property for events that seem inappropriate for a national historic site, while others questioned the choice of concert lineup in a town that is accustomed to tourists who

visit for its culture and history.

"Why would you not bring in events more in keeping with the community, classical concerts rather than rock concerts?" asked one resident of Park Court, one of the closest streets to the concert site.

Another told Lefko she couldn't sit in her backyard and talk to family over the noise level of last year's concert.

She was told a town bylaw officer spent the better part of the day of the Tragically Hip concert with the producer of the event, ensuring the sound never rose above legal levels, and also determined, working with a technical director from the Shaw Festival, that the music wouldn't interfere with a stage performance.

At the town council meeting Monday evening, Picher repeated his message, that he and concert organizers would work with the town to make the concert a positive experience for all involved.

Parks Canada, he said, "has the fundamental challenge of relevance. We have to find new ways to connect with youth."

Without the next generation of stewards and supporters, historic sites and programs are at risk, he said.

Concerts are a strategy to connect with youth in a way that's meaningful to them, he said, and provide "significant revenue for Parks Canada that allows us to reinvest in our sites and the programs we have to offer."



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August concert cancelled

Sluggish ticket sales drive decision to cancel eclectic lineup scheduled

Late last week concert promoter Elliott Lefko was struggling about whether to go ahead with the August long weekend concert he was organizing.

By Monday's public meeting, he had made his decision.

The first event, to be held on the last Saturday in June, the beginning of the Canada Day weekend, will go ahead. It features Dallas Green, a St. Catharines musician who records and performs as City and

Colour. Lefko described Green's music as modern-day Neil Young or Joni Mitchell, and drew groans from the crowd of about 30 residents at a public meeting at the community centre Monday when he said that although the lineup will draw a younger crowd than last year's Tragically Hip, it would be a better behaved group. Hip fans are more likely to party, similar to crowds at sports events, he said.

But this concert is not rock music, it's music with a positive message, he said, and the tickets are selling quickly.

However, tickets for the August concert, which was intended to

bring together musicians from an international stage, with a diverse range of music genres, are moving more slowly.

Given the huge investment he is making to stage that concert, he conceded Monday that NOTL may not be the right place for it, and announced he will move it to Toronto.

"It's too bad, it's a great show, a great idea, but maybe not a great idea for this community," he said, acknowledging two concerts in town might be too much for one summer.

"I may have bitten off more than I can chew. Maybe I should have talked to your first," he said to residents.

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Two summer concerts now just one

The Hip concert was referred to as a pilot project, but residents who had issues last year said Monday they didn't speak up because they weren't aware it was going to

Let's hope organizers who have asked for a second chance will earn the trust of residents who at the moment just want this concert to go away, as the August one has. Only then does it seem likely that this will become an annual event, giving young people a reason to continue to visit.

Thanks for a great party, says retired pharmacist

To Elly Forbes.

A sincere thank you to each and everyone who dropped in to the store during the afternoon and to all the hundreds of people who came to the Community Centre at

Wardie Simpson

The Victorian Villas becomes the latest Defender of the Town, thanks to a generous donation, announces Tony Chisholm, fundraising chairman of the War of 1812 Bicentennial Committee, who is presenting a Defender of the Town plaque to hospitality manager Korey Rorison. "The Victorian Villas are pleased to be part of these unique and exciting commemorations," says Rorison. The contribution will help market bicentennial events planned for 2013 and 2014.

Muddy patch a welcome sight

Be ready to feed birds next month



Jean Cochrane
Happy Gardening

I spoke with a friend who is just back from up

Now I usually mention feeding the birds, and this year we are seeing some changes in the pattern and we have to take into consideration that they

There are lots of new flowering plants this year so get planning.
Happy gardening.

Worried about high blood pressure? Exercise and pass on salt

Check nutrition numbers of packages, including daily values

A number of years ago when I expressed interest in attending a seminar on retirement, I was given a retort about being "too young."

I tried relating this to my doctor when the question arose about my having a "life-style" check-up to address issues before they become problems. She wasn't convinced, but encouraged my participation ... because of my age. It must have something to do with my grey hair.

My doctor's referral was



Randy Klaassen
Senior's View

for me to meet with a nurse practitioner, which I did last week. She began our session by asking if I knew what blood pressure was, and why my doctor was concerned about mine.

I have to admit, it took me a few moments for all this to sink in. My doctor caused me to ask, "Isn't blood pressure the force with which the

heart pushes blood through the body?"

I explained a bit more detail, saying "Blood pressure is the force on the walls of the arteries as the blood circulates. Blood pressure allows blood to flow and deliver nutrients to the body."

For some reason, this made me envision a water balloon at a summer picnic, and the instinctive urge to not let that balloon explode.

Health care professionals are concerned about blood pressure because they don't like to see people excluded from the game.

During our chat, it caught my attention that blood pressure (BP) increases with age. The increase in BP as one gets older is caused by a number of things, and the major concern is to keep the

BP from becoming too high.

Higher BP translates to my heart working harder than is good for me, typical consequences of which are heart attack or stroke. I'm sure health care professionals get tired of repeating the mantra of "healthy diet and exercise," yet those are the key components.

The additional concern for BP is salt consumption because an increase in salt has a direct impact on increasing BP.

My good wife has trained me to check the nutrition facts on packages when I'm at the grocery store. The listing I check most often is sodium, and I've been surprised at the differences between products.

While I've been selecting items with lower sodium

content, I've also learned I have to read more than just the "daily value" percentages. This is because it depends on how much of the product is being measured, or how much I'm going to consume.

What looks like a good choice because of a low sodium percentage might be based on my consuming a teaspoon of the product, when my normal portion is a bowl full.

And what is the basis of those daily value measurements? A recent TV program featuring sodium consumption pointed out the daily values are based on the Canadian Food Guide measurements which are considerably higher than what doctors recommend.

So treat them accordingly, as a guide, while the bottom

line is all of us need to reduce our salt intake.

Along with my commitment to exercising regularly (I like to walk or ride bicycle), I've been learning to cook with non-salt spices. I've also paid attention to selecting more foods that are not processed, which translates to cooking from scratch rather than out of the box.

Oh, and when I need to grab a fast food meal, which I try to avoid, the nurse practitioner recommends a salad option.

Yet if I do order a meal with fries, I've learned I can ask for fries without salt. If the establishment won't allow my request, I always have the option of going elsewhere.

As I get older, I care less about options to choose

Behold the man: innocent yet condemned

I'm not Catholic.

My wife's family is Catholic. Some good friends of mine are. What am I? Good question.

Raised as a Protestant, I still am. At the end of the day, I'm a believer, I love the Lord. Because I know He believes in me, He loves me.

Many of my Catholic and Protestant friends join me in this simple yet profound confession, while not agreeing on every doctrinal and theological issue.

I watched the recent events surrounding one pope's historic resignation and another's unpredictable election, with surprising interest.

Looking at the top 20 candidates, I said to my wife, "If I had a choice, I'd choose the cardinal from Argentina." Besides his unwillingness to compromise the Word of God, I was drawn to his preference for living as a common man. Living in a plain apartment as opposed to the bishop's official residence, cooking his own meals and even using public transportation. A man of no reputation, yet qualified to be pope.



Rick Mills
Consider this

News headlines made this occasion the number one story. Thousands of people gathered outside St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican to greet the new Pope Francis as he appeared on the central balcony.

Through television cameras you were able to see from the vantage point of the pope as he looked towards the throng of worshippers. It was mesmerizing.

I recently saw a painting by Italian artist Antonio Ciseri, titled *Ecce Homo*. I was taken aback.

The painting depicts Pilate, after having Jesus beaten, on the balcony very similar to the central balcony

from which Pope Francis appears. Pilate stands before the crowd of hundreds with a seemingly crucified Jesus standing beside him.

He presents Jesus to the people and says, "Ecce Homo," which is Latin for "Behold the man."

In this 18th century painting, the artist gives the same view as I saw of the new pope on television - looking out from the background, towards the people.

The difference? This crowd in the painting was accusing, demanding Jesus be crucified. Why? He claimed to be God. He threatened the established rulers and religious zealots.

The title of the painting and its translation, Behold the man, contributed to my awe. Jesus stood as a man. He came to die as man, yet without sin. Just as it's written, "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin."

He was innocent. They threw fists. They spit, hollered condemnation at Him,



Pope Francis, as seen here from St. Peter's Basilica's balcony, appeals to people as a common man. AFP PHOTO / ALBERTO PIZZOLI

insulted and mocked Him with a crown of thorns and purple robe.

Pilate knew Jesus was innocent. But fear of man, the multitude, pushed him to let them have their way. They didn't know Jesus was a man by choice. Sure He was God, but He was there as their substitute.

I couldn't shake the image this almost 150 year old painting gave me. Thankful for today's technology, I was able to put this painting as the backdrop for both my computer and cell phone. Every time I saw it, it

caused me to pause.

I quietly asked the Lord, "Show me." Show me how You had to stand in my humanity, to suffer and die for my sin. That because you took man's place, my place, I no longer have to be subjected to the power of sin.

The words of Paul to the Colossian church seemed to come alive to me.

"Having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us... He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Having disarmed principalities and powers,

He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it."

The lyric from a popular worship song comes to mind.

"I'll never know how much it cost, to see my sin upon that cross... here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say, that you're my God."

In spite of man's differences, I believe Pope Francis is a man who would be bowing right beside us.

Pilate's words resonate. The invitation still valid. Behold, the man.

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PUBLIC NOTICE Wetlands

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has recently identified additional wetlands in Niagara-on-the-Lake through its evaluation process. As a result, some property owners may face new limitations on how those lands can be used.

To inform residents of these changes, the Town has invited representatives from MNR, Niagara Region, and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority to attend a public information session and be on hand to answer questions from the public.

The details of the meeting are as follows:

Date: Thursday, April 11, 2013
Time: 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Location: Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Centre
Mori Room

NOTE: Please see the copy of the wetland map on this page. A copy of the map and further information on the wetlands evaluation process are posted on the Town's website at www.notl.org.

For more information, please contact

John Henricks, Manager of Planning – (905) 468-3061 x 243 or jhenricks@notl.org

NOTICE TO DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY Privately Initiated Inflow & Infiltration Investigations

At its meeting on February 11, 2013, town Council approved a process to permit private companies to conduct inflow and infiltration (I & I) investigations of the Old Town's sanitary sewer system to secure additional wastewater capacity.

This measure will allow for the continuous processing of development plans until the new Lakeshore sewage plant is built.

Propponents wishing to conduct an I & I investigation must engage a qualified consulting engineering firm to study a defined catchment area within the Old Town sanitary sewer system which drains into one of the Region's pumping stations. The study must also determine the locations of potential inflow and infiltration of storm water and/or ground water into the system.

Upon the study's completion, the proponent may seek permission to carry out remedial works preventing flow from entering the pumping station through the public system, private property connections, or both.

For more information on study conditions and the application process, please visit the Town's website at www.notl.org or contact:

Public Works Department
Ewald Kuczyra, Director of Public Works ext. 268
Doug Kerr, Deputy Director of Public Works ext. 299
(905) 468-3278

Town wants to reduce footprint

➤ Committee looking at ways to green public vehicles, buildings and equipment



Jamie King
Council Corner

For most of us just trying to keep pace with rising energy prices, it makes sense to look at ways to reduce our carbon footprint and improve efficiencies, both at home and at work.

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake is no exception. One of council's newer

advisory committees is an Energy Management Committee. Its mandate is to map out an energy management plan for all Town municipal buildings, facilities, vehi-

cles and equipment.

After looking at other municipal energy plans, as well as provisions under the Green Energy Act, the committee introduced its own strategy and since 2011, has worked with staff to complete eight projects to upgrade aging infrastructure, produce energy savings and install replacement products which yield a higher return on investment.

These projects included replacement of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system and lighting upgrades during the renovation of the Town's administration building.

The Town received more than \$10,000 in efficiency incentives as a result of the recent HVAC upgrades at the town hall.

There are two more projects planned for 2013, which combined with the previous eight, will result in almost \$11,000 in energy savings annually.

See Page 20

GET INVOLVED NOW.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

The Partners and staff of Crawford, Smith and Swallow Chartered Accountants LLP are pleased to announce that (left to right) Mr. Jordan Perri and Mr. Frank Calabrese have successfully completed the Uniform Evaluation (UFE). The UFE is the uniform examination standard for entrance to the CA profession in Canada.

A graduate of Notre Dame College School in Welland, Mr. Perri joined Crawford, Smith and Swallow in 2007 as a co-op student in our Niagara Falls office. He received his Bachelor of Accounting Honours degree from Brock University in 2011 and successfully completed his Chartered Accountant designation requirements in 2012. Jordan currently provides accounting, assurance and taxation services to a variety of clients in both the public and private sectors.

A graduate of Holy Cross Secondary School in St. Catharines, Mr. Calabrese joined the St. Catharines Office as a co-op student in 2007. In 2011 he received his Bachelor of Accounting degree with Honours from Brock University. In 2012, Frank successfully completed the Chartered Accountant designation requirements and currently provides a wide range of clients with a variety of assurance and taxation services from our Niagara-on-the-Lake Office. Active in the community, Frank is a marketing committee member with the Big Move Cancer Ride and is a dedicated volunteer with the St. Catharines General Hospital Foundation.

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486 Steeles St.
905-635-0121

Reading clubs, learning opportunities and discussion groups at library

Enjoy discussing books over wine, beer or coffee, or learn about downloading e-books at library

After a very successful week of March Break events, we're ready to welcome spring at the library.

Tonight the Niagara Bonsai Society presents the Art of Bonsai at 7 p.m. Learn about bonsai design and style from society members who will display their work and provide light refreshments.

April's InfoHealth seminar features psychiatrist Dr. Kerry Boyd from McMaster University's Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences.

Dr. Boyd will discuss the impact of children with disabilities on family life. This free seminar will be held on Wednesday, April 10 at 2 p.m. and broadcast on Cogeco's community channel.

Back by popular demand, Hilary Bellis of It Can Be



Cathy Simpson
@ Your Library

Arranged leads two gardening workshops this spring. Bring your garden gloves to Get Ready for Spring and create a beautiful insert for your outdoor urn on April 11. She will show you how to recycle a mason jar to create a hanging vase with a fresh spring flower display during her Mother's Day Arrangement workshop on May 9.

Famous & Infamous has returned after a winter break and will look at the life of French poet Arthur Rimbaud on April 17 at 3 p.m.

Join the discussion about the "infant Shakespeare" who produced works while in his late teens, giving up creative writing before the

age of 20.

The discussion continues at the Philosophers' Club on April 18 at 7 p.m. Join us in the Local History room for informal and interesting conversation each month on a variety of meaningful topics.

Our book clubs continue this spring with something for everyone. Nigella Lawson's cookbook is on the menu this April 18 when the Cook the Books club meets to share the Nigella dishes they've prepared.

The Second Cup book club looks at *The Reinvention of Love* by Wine & Words author Helen Humphrey on April 16.

Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl* will be discussed during the next Beer & Books meeting at the Irish Harp on April 22.

Explore Your Family Tree kicks off our slate of computer and Internet courses with a look at the world's largest family history web site, Ancestry.ca, on April 23.

Downloading E-Books returns on April 30 and on May 8 we'll show you how to learn a new language

using Mango and how to download music with Freegal.

If you can't decide between a computer and tablet, join us on May 16 to look at the positives and negatives of both technologies.

The basics of iPads are covered on May 23 and PowerPoint basics on June 6. The mysteries of the library catalogue (Evergreen) will be revealed along with tips on using our readers' recommendation tool, Novelist, on May 30.

We're very pleased to welcome two local groups who are now meeting at the library.

The NOTL Writers' Circle meets twice a month on a Sunday afternoon in the library's Rotary Room. The group was formed to support local writers' creative efforts, share work, provide

constructive feedback and have fun. Please contact Hermine Steinberg for more details; hsteinberg@sympatico.ca or 289-868-9601.

Coworking NOTL meets every Thursday in the main library from 1 to 4 p.m. Coworking brings people who typically work alone (freelancers, telecommuters, self-employed) together in a shared space.

This allows for networking, alliances, opportunities, and shared solutions. Visit <http://gatheringniagara.com/coworking/> for more details.

We're very excited about a new program that takes an inside look at the Shaw Festival's upcoming season, join host Leonard Conolly, Shaw Corresponding Scholar, for discussions with writers and directors from three of this season's productions.

In Conversation with the Shaw Festival welcomes *Lady Windermere's Fan* director, and Order of Canada Officer, Peter Hinton on May 6.

Playwright John Murrell, who's adapted Shaw's *Genevieve*, will discuss Peace in Our Time with Shaw Literary Manager Joanna Falk, on June 3.

On July 8, Shaw Associate Artistic Director, Eda Holmes, discusses her direction of Tom Stoppard's *play Arcadia*.

Each talk will be held at the library and start at 7 p.m. The series is free but we ask you to register in advance to reserve your seat.

For further details about any of the library's programs and services, please call us at 905-468-0238 or visit us at 10 Anderson Lane and www.notlpubliclibrary.org.

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TELEPHONE ORDERS ACCEPTED

Foundation forced to make pitch for property in private

➤ Bid to present details in public was rejected, replaced by offer of five-minute presentation behind closed doors

Penney Colles
Niagara Advance

Members of the Niagara Foundation, hoping the town will work with them in their quest to purchase the former lawn bowling lands on Regent Street, were perplexed to discover they had to make their pitch in private Monday night.

Last year, town council voted to sell the historic

property that has been in the public domain for more than 200 years as two lots for residential development.

Foundation president Paul Shepherd asked to make a presentation to town councillors Monday night to talk about a partnership that would allow the property to remain public, but was informed Friday that his delegation would have to be made during a closed-door session on Monday's agenda.

Closed sessions are scheduled at the end of the meeting, and any discussion that takes place remains confidential.

One of a limited number of subjects that can be discussed by council in private is real estate, given the confidential nature of

sales negotiations.

But it's unusual, says Michael Howe, a member of the Foundation, for a request for a public discussion to be turned down in favour of a private session.

Foundation members were told that the decision to receive the delegation in private was made taking into consideration the "multiple interested parties" in the purchase of 244 Regent Street, to ensure all parties are treated equally.

"Despite our further request to make our presentation during the public segment of the meeting, we have been denied that opportunity," said Howe.

"Consequently, in order to ensure that our offer at least receives equal air

time with any other offers being considered, Paul Shepherd will make a presentation at the incamera session on Monday evening."

Howe said foundation members "are extremely disappointed with council's decision to prevent us from detailing our offer in the public forum."

When Shepherd made his original request more than a year ago to keep the historic property in the public domain, as green space and possibly the site of a peace garden that would commemorate the War of 1812 Bicentennial, he said it would be at no cost to the town—members were willing to look for grants to cover any costs.

He received some support from Coun. Gary

Zalepa Jr., Martin Mazza and Jamie King, and a petition signed by more than 500 people was also presented to council. But the majority supported the planning staff recommendation to declare the property surplus and rezone it to accommodate two residential lots.

The land was acquired in 1803 by the colonial government of Upper Canada and transferred to the Town around the 1850s.

Both General Sir Isaac Brock and Colonel John MacDonnell lay in state at the Government House on the Regent Street block following their death in the Battle of Queenston Heights. It was from there that their funeral procession began.

Niagara Foundation

members still believe preserving the former lawn bowling property as public green space is an important legacy to the town centre.

"We feel this open green space in the centre of town is consistent with sound town planning principles that recognize the value of the public squares bring to a town," says Shepherd.

"It has been widely demonstrated in both Europe and North America that these open public spaces help to create engaged communities."

The Foundation presentation Monday was to provide councillors with the details of their proposal and seek their support for going forward to preserve the property.

If council were to accept their proposal, Niagara Foundation members said they would work with the Town and the public to make the property a meaningful public space.

But after the private discussion, the direction from council was simply for town administrator Mike Galloway to "continue negotiations."

Established in 1962 as a voluntary charitable organization, the Niagara Foundation promotes the history, traditions and culture of the Niagara area.

Dedicated to restoring and maintaining the architecture of the area, Foundation projects have included the rectory at St. Mark's Anglican Church, the steeple at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, financial support for the Willowbank School of Restoration Arts "Properties at Risk Documentation Program," restoration of the William Stewart house, renovation of Foghorn House, and restoration of the Apothecary on the main street in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Funds raised by The Niagara Foundation are used to support a range of preservation and restoration efforts.



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PRESIDENT'S GOLD AWARD 2012

Town presents new logo incorporating agriculture, history, location

Melissa Mangelsen
Niagara Advance

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake has unveiled its new logo.

Agriculture, community, location and history were the concepts embodied in the new logo.

The new graphic was the culmination of an extensive work plan by a special advisory committee of council, initiated in late 2011.

Members of the committee studied existing demographic and marketing research, and undertook a series of public consultations, including resident, visitor and student surveys. All of the data was combined into an overall position statement, which was then used to guide the graphic design process.

"This is an exciting new chapter for our town," said Lord Mayor Dave Eke.

"The development of a



new corporate logo was a major component of our strategic plan and today it has become a reality. On behalf of town council, I would like to express our gratitude to the committee members for their tireless work on this project."

In an attempt to capture the essence of the town's enviable location, agricultural vitality and proud heritage, logo designers Symetric Productions of St. Catharines consulted with the town for direction.

The green agricultural rows signify the five communities: Old Town, Queenston, St. David's, Glendale and Virgil. The communities are intended come together in the natu-

ral beauty of the rural areas.

The blue font and water symbol signify the surrounding waters. The flow of both the green rows and the staggered text are intended to represent how our agricultural lands and communities - nestled under the protection of the Niagara Escarpment - flow down to meet Lake Ontario and the mouth of the Niagara River.

The establishment date of 1781 speaks to the town's rich and storied past.

The town crest and logo will remain two separate entities. The crest will still be used for official legal documents, while the new logo was designed to put a fresh face to the town's

many programs and services.

NOTL's position statement is as follows:

Niagara-on-the-Lake, a vibrant historical picturesque town at the tip of the Niagara Peninsula, is nestled along the shores of Lake Ontario at the mouth of the Niagara River below the majestic Niagara Escarpment - a UNESCO-designated biosphere.

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"Founded in 1781, named as the first capital of Upper Canada in 1792, and rebuilt after the War of 1812, Niagara-on-the-Lake is a vibrant and thriving community, which takes pride in its heritage.

"Visitors, many of whom become residents, are drawn to our old village atmosphere, featuring the Shaw Festival Theatre - the second largest repertory theatre in North America -

and internationally acclaimed wineries, four-star hotels and inns, dining, spas, bed & breakfasts, outdoor recreational amenities."

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Lots of laughter, lots of tears at party for retired pharmacist

➤ More than 500 people crowded into community centre to say thank you

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Just days before his retirement party at the community centre Saturday, Ward Simpson, the popular pharmacist and community volunteer, was worried nobody would come.

But minutes after its 7:30 p.m. start time, the tables for 250 people were full and there was a long line outside the auditorium doors as 500 friends of Ward Simpson turned out to say thank you to the man who built a successful business in Niagara-on-the-

Lake, and gave back to the community in spades.

Given Simpson's well-known propensity for being unable to get through many occasions without crying, there were the expected tears at Saturday's tribute.

There were also cases and cases of Kleenex on and around the stage, and opened boxes scattered about. They were much-needed and well-used.

Simpson was not the only one moved to tears. Long-time employee Eilly Forbes, who began working at the pharmacy one week after it opened more than 35 years ago, couldn't say enough about her boss.

When life gets busy, we sometimes forget about others, but never you to the man who built a successful business in Niagara-on-the-

times and bad.

During the fire in 2007, shortly after his totally renovated pharmacy had re-opened, he "lost the sparkle in his eye," but it didn't take long to come back, she said.

"Everything he does, he puts his heart into. He is the most caring, compassionate, unselfish, loving man I've ever met."

You don't measure assets by wealth but by friends and family, she said to Ward, "and look around this room—you're a very rich man."

There was as much laughter as there were tears, with comic Joe Pillitteri doing a great job as master of ceremonies, and a delightful recorded performance by the staff at Simpson's Pharmasave.

See Page 15



PENNY COLES Niagara Advance

Sean, Oresta, Ward and Lisa Simpson get ready to party at the retirement celebration for Ward at the community centre Saturday.

Simpson describes retirement as the 'next season' of his life

From Page 14

Ward's friend and golfing buddy gave a long, hysterical account of their travels in Ireland—Ward is such a fan of the Irish that he likes to pretend he's from Ireland, rather than Welland, his real birthplace.

Ward, said Dickson, has introduced Stompin' Tom Connors' Hockey Song to Ireland, no mean feat among people who don't know the first thing about hockey, and there were lots of jokes about his lack of finesse on the golf course—which he hopes to change in retirement.

But despite the joking, there was ample proof of the admiration of a man by an entire community, from those he has aided in his volunteer work, those he has helped at the pharmacy, and those with first-hand experience of his friendship.

Moved, not surprisingly, to tears, Simpson said he's enjoyed giving back to the community.

"They've given so much more to me."

He got a shot at the government for making it difficult to be in the business of running a pharmacy.

"If the government could only run their own business as well as they try to run everybody else's, we'd all be a lot better off."

His staff and his customers made going to work fun for him, and he'll miss them, he said.

He asks himself, sometimes, "Where did the years go? Where did my youth go?"

There was a time when he would look at older people and couldn't imagine himself in the "winter" of his life.

But at retirement, he's entering a new season of his life, "and when it's over, another new season

will begin."

He has some regrets, of things he has done and of other things he didn't do, he said, "but whatever you would like to accomplish, don't put it off for long. You can never be too sure whether this is your winter or not."

Before getting ready to

party, Simspon closed with advice to do and say "all the things you would like your loved ones to remember, before it's too late."

"Life is a gift to you. The way you live your life is your gift to those who come after you. Make it a fantastic one."



PENNY COLES

Niagara Advance

Oresta and Ward Simpson climb aboard the e-bike presented to him at his retirement party, so he can drive from his Old Town home to the NOTL Golf Club, where he can often be found during the golfing season. He even has his own parking spot, presented to him by club owner John Wiens.

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323 Simcoe Street
Niagara-on-the-Lake

Food co-ordinator for concert hopes to showcase local products

Toronto event manager looking after Niagara food vendors for City and Colour concert

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Concert organizers want to work with local businesses to ensure summer events in town showcase the best Niagara has to offer.

Anil Rebello, a Toronto event organizer, has been contracted to help accomplish that goal.

As Rebello reaches out to local food vendors, he says his reasons are twofold: to provide the best food experience for concert-goers, and to help local businesses successfully promote themselves to the 15,000 people expected at Butler's Barracks for a day of music.

While Rebello's company would usually handle all the details of an

event, from tents to supplies to vendors, in this situation, most of those details are being handled by concert organizers. He is charged with ensuring that concert-goers have enough great food to eat, enough variety from which to choose, and to make it an overall positive experience for not only those purchasing food but those providing it.

He has been working with Signature Kitchens, a group of restaurants in Niagara-on-the-Lake which often come together

to provide food for local events.

But the number of people expected at Butler's Barracks is "outside the standard operating practice of restaurants," he says, and not all will choose to be involved.

He hopes to have 25 to 35 vendors from the Niagara Region, offering everything from hamburgers to products which service a "niche market" such as ethnic food.

"The key is to make sure we're providing service and supporting ven-

dors who need to operate smoothly. Vendors have to produce and sell their product as quickly as possible, and we provide the infrastructure to make that happen."

He has to ensure that restaurants which don't normally work under those conditions do so successfully, he said.

He hopes to have his vendors lined up by the end of April to give him time to organize operations, to maximize the exposure for the restaurants which are onboard

"and to ensure we're really showcasing the region first and foremost. There are incredible products available in Niagara, unequaled products. These are opportunities we love to be a part of, events that are grooming the next generation of visitors."

Anyone interested in being involved as a food provider or looking for more information can contact him at info@absoluteeventsandmanagement.com, or call 1-416-551-7335.



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Two NOTL companies participated in the largest one-day patient move in Niagara history Sunday, transporting patients from hospitals in Welland, Niagara Falls and Queenston St. In St. Catharines to the new hospital on Fourth Ave. Involved in the move were Casey McNab and his Community Patient Transfer Group and David Mula of Niagara Classic Transport. **PHOTO SUPPLIED**

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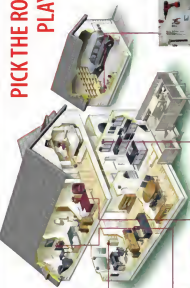


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NOTL woman receives birthday wishes from International Space Station

Commander Chris Hadfield makes a phone call to party at NOTL community centre to say happy birthday

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Elizabeth Peters didn't get the surprise party for her birthday she had jokingly hinted at to her friends—instead, she had a surprise for them.

Last Thursday, the Niagara-on-the-Lake woman heard that a friend of a friend—"it was just three degrees of separation," she said—had arranged a birthday phone call from one of her heroes, Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield, currently the commander of the International Space Station.

At first she thought it was a joke. Even when she received an e-mail from Hadfield Friday wondering if he could attend her party "remotely," and asking what time would be best, she had trouble believing it was for real.

She e-mailed back saying 2:30 p.m. would be "just fine," and received a reply that said he would do his best, depending on his schedule and satellite link-ups.

Hadfield, 54, lifted off in December to spend five months working with American astronauts and Russian cosmonauts as they conduct science experiments, test new technologies and carry out spacewalks.

But he has been keeping in touch with those at home through telephone calls to students and others interested in learning about space.

Peters had organized her 60th birthday party at the community centre Sunday, an occasion that drew about 150 people at a time when she wasn't well enough to arrange or enjoy a party.

cancer, which has metastasized and is now in her liver, lungs and lymph nodes. She undergoes weekly chemotherapy treatments—had a treatment at 8 a.m. in the new hospital Monday—although she took a break from them so she could be well enough to enjoy her

And it was a happy occasion, with only a couple of brief mentions of cancer—instead she wanted to focus on having everyone together "who helps make my life bearable."

She kept her news about the phone call a surprise, and arranged for

gain. To be so focused on continuing to achieve, despite all he has done, is just astonishing to me," she said.

"More than anything, I wanted to tell him how honoured we were to have him call, and how proud everyone is of him for what he does for all of

us." He spoke of Niagara-on-the-Lake, a photo he took of it from space, and mentioned he had had his honeymoon here.

Peters had a question for him, one that she never got to voice.

She intended to ask whether any of the science

experiments being performed in space would help put an end to cancer, but in the end, the conversation remained light-hearted, as did her party.

"Maybe I'll get to talk to him on his 60th birthday—it's only six years away—and I can ask him then," she says.



Elizabeth Peters, celebrating her birthday with friends at the NOTL community centre, chats with astronaut Chris Hadfield, who called her from the International Space Station to say happy birthday. PHOTO SUPPLIED

party.

"I wanted a chemo holiday so I could be at my very best for the party. I know the risks and I know the benefits of skipping treatments, and it was worth it. I felt really, really great."

It was an opportunity to bring together friends and family members, many who have come from far away and whom she seldom sees.

She can joke about the fact that such reunions often occur at funerals. She wasn't going to wait for that, she says.

It was also a belated celebration of her marriage last summer, at a time when she wasn't well enough to arrange or enjoy a party.

a microphone hook-up so that her guests could hear her conversation, which was a bit broken up but for the most part easy to understand.

"I was a little nervous," she said. Hadfield has been a hero to her since he first started preparing for this mission.

"I kept hearing him speak about what he was doing, that he had wanted to be an astronaut since he was a child. He had already accomplished so much, yet he still has so much more he wants to do, not for personal fame or

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CLOSED EASTER SUNDAY

Lecture series 'natural fit' for town and art museum

Learn about Canadian art at RiverBlink, with Samuel Weir collection as a resource for talks

Canadian Art in Seven could be for you.

David Aurandt, the director and curator of RiverBlink and an art history professor, will be talking about Canadian art—which means the European influence, English and French, with some mention of American art—from the colonial period, through to the Group of Seven, modernism, Aboriginal art and artists, post-modernism and Canadian art today.

The reference to 'seven' is an obvious reference to what many people consider Canadian art—the Group of Seven—and to seven lectures that will

comfortably allow time to give an overview of the history of Canadian art from the late 1700s until today, says Aurandt.

The lectures will be offered Wednesday mornings, beginning April 10 at 10 a.m., for seven weeks. Aurandt is aiming to attract locals who are interested in furthering their education.

"It's a natural for Niagara-on-the-Lake, given its demographics, and for RiverBlink," he says.

"We have many older adults here who like to learn. It made sense to me that we should be developing a community learning series. We have the

capacity in our collection to tell the story of Canadian art, and it should be the first story to tell."

But it won't end there, he says—he envisions continuing lecture series to follow, with no shortage of topics based on the vast resources of the museum.

"We hope this will take off so there can be continuing opportunities that go beyond our busiest season, through the fall and winter."

Aurandt says he finds offering "continuing studies" courses rewarding, "quite different from teaching undergraduates who have little in the way

of life experience."

Talking to older adults who have an interest in the subject and who are "highly motivated" is something he loves doing, he says.

"Often I get back more than I have to give. This is where I get to learn, and I find it enormously rewarding."

He also enjoys showing off RiverBlink to locals who are visiting the museum for the first time, he says.

He often hears from people who say they have intended to visit the museum for years, but just never managed to find the time.

"They're a little embar-

assed to admit they haven't been here before."

And they're always impressed when they realize the breadth of the collection.

Holding continuing education classes for the community is also following the mandate of Samuel Weir, who amassed his enormous collection and left it not to family but so that the public could enjoy it.

"His idea was to leave something behind for the people of this community," says Aurandt.

See Page 23





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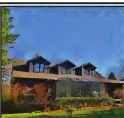
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Stories of Canadian art

From Page 22

"He wanted the community to have the opportunity to enjoy his collection and learn from it. Supporting education was the main goal of the Weir Foundation. We ought to be doing this, we ought to be doing more of it, and we will be."

Holding the lectures at RiverBrink, on the Niagara River Parkway in Queenston, means limiting participation to 30 people, but it allows for the use of the resources at the museum, with its extensive collection of Canadian art.

Thanks to a grant from the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, the fee has been

kept to \$30 for the series of seven talks for non-members, \$25 for RiverBrink members. For more information or to register call 905-262-4510.

PENNY COLES
Niagara Advance

RiverBrink Art Museum, with its large collection of Canadian art, has the resources to offer a lecture series with an overview of Canadian art history, says curator David Aurandt. The painting beside him is one that he will refer to in his lectures, The Young Simcoe, which has an interesting story attached to its origin. Join the lecture series and learn about the portrait of the teen-aged Simcoe who was just about to leave for Canada.



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Sunday School for all ages 9:45 am
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Message by Pastor Kevin Wieksa
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Children provided during service

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9:00 am Free Breakfast
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Message by Pastor Rudy Dittus
10:45 am Easter Sunday Service
Message by Stephen Galt
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'Miracle' homecoming for St. Davids teen

It's been a long road to recovery for Nick Roma since his diagnosis of leukemia in December 2011

Matt Day
QMI Agency Niagara

Minutes after throwing up into a lunch bag, Nick Roma can't help but smile.

Yes, the chemotherapy

is rough. He hasn't beat the acute lymphoblastic leukemia just yet.

But the 18-year-old St. Davids teen could be the poster boy for resiliency.

He stepped out of his mother's SUV Friday, after returning from a chemo treatment, and began walking up the ramp to

his Line 8 home, one arm draped around his girlfriend for stability.

In Walking, it's something Roma's mother, Karen, still can't believe her son is able to do.

Seven months ago she was told her son needed to undergo surgery to remove his hands and feet following an infection that caused multiple organ failures.

Eight months ago she was told there was only a slim chance her son would even live.

They both share a laugh as they get out of the car, something the two of them know all too well not to take for granted.

Welcome home. After a long recovery due to complications with his disease, Roma walked out of Hamilton General Hospital on prosthetic limbs Thursday.

"I felt like it was really a miracle because nine

months ago I wasn't given too much hope," said Karen.

In December 2011, Roma was diagnosed with the form of cancer. Last July, Roma went into septic shock and his organs shut down. There was no blood flow to his hands and feet and he fell into a coma for six weeks.

McMaster Children's Hospital doctors tried to save his limbs, but his hands and feet were too far gone.

A month later, Roma needed brain surgery to correct an aneurysm. He also suffered two strokes during that time.

Even after all that, less than 24 hours after walking out of the physiotherapy centre, Roma was home.

"It feels amazing," said Roma.

"Knowing I would be going home definitely helped me get through."

His house is being retrofitted to suit his needs.

A ramp leads up to the back porch. The bathroom is renovated so he can simply walk into the shower.

Still, another \$20,000 needs to be spent making

it so Roma can get back to living an independent life.

That's just another challenge the Romas are ready for.

"He never complains," said Karen. "Never says, 'Why me?' Never gets frustrated even though there's been a lot of pain and a lot of hard work."

He has become comfortable with prosthetic hands, one for cosmetic purposes that mimic normal hands but serve no practical function, the other is a set of hooks that can be used to grab things using shoulder muscles.

He has become comfortable on his prosthetic legs and can now walk up to 400 metres at a time.

"It's like I'm walking on stilts," he explained.

The eventual goal is to get bionic hands for Roma, but just one can cost \$60,000 and needs to be replaced every seven years.

That doesn't deter Roma, though. New hands or not, he's home now, only having to make a once-a-week hospital visit for chemotherapy.

See Page 25

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Roma anxious to get back to life of 18-year-old

"I can't wait to relax and get back to what I did before in every day life," he said.

"I want to see my new puppy more. I want to take up drums and relearn myself guitar and I'm going back to school next January."

Nick Roma and his girlfriend Kara Brown walk up the ramp to the Romas' St. David's home on Line 8 Friday. A group of volunteers got together and clipped in their time, expertise, supplies and resources to build him the ramp to access his home.

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Good Friday, March 29

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Easter Sunday, March 30

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Easter Sunday, March 31

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Tony de Luca to showcase talent at Chef Signature series

With students, Niagara College chef presents four-course meal of signature dishes

Tony de Luca considers himself blessed to have worked alongside some remarkable people in some beautiful locations during his 30 plus years in the hospitality business.

Now a chef professor at Niagara College, cooking has been in his soul since he began cooking at his mother's side, he says.

"What can you say about a profession in which one's very nature is defined?" he asks.

"My friends, my family,

my travels, my highs and my lows as all built on the foundations of hospitality, which in many ways has defined my life."

De Luca has worked in the U.S., France, England, Germany and Italy.

In 1996, he became the opening chef of Hillebrand Estates Winery Restaurant, and was the owner of de Luca's Cheesemarket and Deli, de Luca's Wine Country Restaurant and The Old Winery Restaurant.

He has published two cookbooks: Recipes from Wine Country (2005) and Simply in Season (2009) and has also had many TV appearances on Food Network Canada.

Next Thursday, he will be the chef professor at the

dinner event that is part of the recently-launched Chef Signature Series, designed to showcase the top culinary talent at Niagara College's Canadian Food and Wine Institute.

The series is comprised of six dinner events, each showcasing a different Niagara College chef professor.

Guests will be served a four-course meal of signature dishes prepared by de Luca, assisted by a team of culinary students.

Each course will be matched with VQA wines or Ontario craft beer, including selections crafted by students at the college's Teaching Winery and Teaching Brewery. All of this will take place at Benchmark, the College's

Teaching Restaurant located at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Campus.

"It is important for the Canadian Food and Wine Institute to be able to display the national-level culinary talent we have in both our professors and students, and what better way to do that than to have six of our professional culinary staff bring together a student team and showcase the best of all their skills to the public," said dean of the CFWI Jon Ogryzlo.

"I expect to see exceptional dishes and fun nights as the chef professors educate us about their selections and unique taste profiles."

The events also provide new learning experiences for students who have an

opportunity to work closely with the chefs, including Avi Hollo for the April 25 event and Michael Olson, whose dinner is featured May 9.

The Canadian Food and Wine Institute is the College's centre for food wine and beer education. The CFWI delivers culinary, wine and beer programs that are unique in Canada, including Brewmaster and Brewery Operations Management, Wine Technology, Wine Business Management and Culinary Innovation and Food Technology.

It is home to Benchmark, the College's teaching restaurant, as well as the Teaching Winery and Teaching Brewery.



Chef Tony de Luca
SUPPLIED PHOTO

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Cadets to share trip memories

The local Air Cadet squadron would like to share its photos of a trip to Vimy Ridge last April.

Ten cadets and four staff from 809 Newark Air Cadet Squadron traveled to France for the 95th Anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge Memorial Celebrations, with a group of cadets and staff from 62 Air Cadet Squadron in Grimsby led by Captain Dave Leonard, Commanding Officer.

The trip was only 11 days, but the memories will last a lifetime, says volunteer Doris Drevitt.

The cadets journeyed to Germany, Belgium and France. They visited the sites of Ypres, Flanders, the St. Julien Monument, Menin Gate, Brugge, Passchendaele, and Breendonk

Concentration Camp. They toured Geitenkirchen, Kohn Cathedral, Rheimburg, Reichswald and Groesbeek Cemeteries.

The cadets who participated in the journey returned with a new-found appreciation of Canada's military history, the sacrifices of our fighting men and women, and even greater respect for our veterans, says Drevitt.

It took nearly 10 months for the cadets of 809 Squadron to raise money to offset the cost of this trip, with 18 local businesses and private citizens contributing to its overwhelming success.

On Tuesday, April 9, the cadets will be making a presentation to the citizens of the Town of

Niagara-On-The-Lake at the Community Centre on Anderson Lane. It will be held in the main auditorium from 7 to 9 p.m.

The cadets who attended the Vimy Ridge memorial celebrations will be presenting photos of the trip, along with personal anecdotes of their favorite visits, and sharing their lasting memories.

As a token of 809 Squadron's gratitude, certificates of appreciation will be presented to each of those organizations and individuals that supported the trip. Light refreshments will be served.

All residents of NOTL are invited to attend this snapshot of the 809 Newark Squadron Air Cadet trip of a lifetime, says Drevitt.



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Time to evaluate youth programs with eye to future

Kids' sessions at community centre well-liked but parents might want something different

With the youth programs run by the Boys and Girls Club more than half way through the 10-week sessions, it's time to evaluate to see what comes next.

When the new community centre opened, there was a room for youth but little in

the way of structured programs. Kevin Turcotte, program director, took some time to look at what the community wanted before partnering with the Boys and Girls Club to provide something for the youngest residents of Niagara-on-the-



PENNY COLES Niagara Advance

Instructor Lindsay Buttnik from the Boys and Girls Club helps kids get moving in the Wednesday afternoon program at the community centre. With her are Brooks Lyn Rowe, Juvea and Navea Mastromatteo and Chase Buray.

Lake.

The result has been very successful, he said, with several of the programs, which are directed at kids aged

three to 12, capped at their maximum of 15 participants.

There are dance programs, focusing on movement, a high-energy session that develops fine and gross motor skills, a kitchen creations cooking program and hip hop dance for kids aged eight to 12.

The programs came about in response to

what parents were requesting, as will the next session, says Turcotte.

It will likely begin in May and run for eight weeks. Parents who have children participating in the programs currently running are being asked to evaluate the sessions, to help devise the next set, and community members who have kids not registered are welcome to provide input as well, says Turcotte.

The Boys and Girls Club of Niagara provide the staff for the programs.

Fees run from \$36 to \$55, and the sessions run weekdays, from late afternoon to early evening.

For more information call Turcotte at 905-682-4FUN.

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Are antibiotics necessary for teeth-cleaning after hip replacement?

Ninety per cent of dentists say yes



Dr. Gifford Jones
The Doctor Gane

What should you do if a dentist or dental hygienist says, "I won't clean your teeth unless you agree to take antibiotics following surgical hip or knee replacement?"

Today, more than one million hip and knee replacements are done every year in North America.

The American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons (AAOS) is adamant about this question. They claim that during the last 20 years the number of post-operative hip and knee infections has markedly decreased due to the use of antibiotics during surgery and the immediate post-operative period.

Anyone scheduled for

these procedures can show "balleghu" for this achievement. Post-operative infection is a serious problem requiring long-term antibiotic treatment and sometimes further surgery.

Re-operating on an infected joint is never as easy as the initial surgery. So why not use every precaution to prevent this complication?

But, as usual, there's

another side to the story.

A report from the Cleveland Clinic states, "We believe the available evidence does not support routine antibiotic prophylaxis before dental procedures in patients who have undergone total joint replacement even though the practice is very common and even though professional societies recommend it in patients at high risk or even in all patients."

What evidence do they have to back up this? Researchers point out that the germ called *Staphylococcus aureus* is the main culprit in causing post-operative joint infections. But this organism is rarely present in the oral cavity. Moreover, it is also rarely found in the blood stream following dental procedures.

It's the viridans-group streptococci bacteria that are

the primary inhabitants of the mouth. These bacteria commonly enter the blood stream temporarily following dental trauma to the gums. But they only account for two per cent of post-operative joint infections.

The Cleveland report cites other evidence. In one study, 1,000 patients who had total joint replacement were followed for the next six years. Of this group 26 underwent dental procedures without receiving antibiotic therapy and none developed a prosthetic joint infection.

Possibly their best argument is old-fashioned horse sense. Transient low-grade bacterial invasion of the blood not only occurs with a dental procedure, but also with daily common activities such as chewing, brushing teeth, and flossing. Moreover, this cumulative exposure to

transient bacterial invasion of the blood is several times higher than the single exposure patients receive during teeth cleaning.

So who is right? Unfortunately, there's no ultimate answer. But this debate reminds me of the time when it was hunky if patients with a floppy heart valve were not given antibiotics before teeth cleaning.

The fear was that without antibiotics bacteria would infect these valves causing bacterial endocarditis. Now experts say this precaution is no longer needed.

It would seem prudent to give antibiotics to those who have had previous joint infec-

tions, type 1 diabetes, inflammatory disease, immunosuppressed and HIV patients and other high risk situations.

But to subject those who have always had sound dental hygiene to antibiotics may be using an elephant gun to kill a mouse. Particularly when antibiotics can cause complications and when we are trying to decrease the use of antibiotics to prevent antibiotic resistance.

I called several dental offices and 90 per cent said antibiotics were required for teeth cleaning.

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Sports

Editor Penny Coles
905-468-3283 ext. 103 penny.coles@sunmedia.ca

Rangers win provincial gold

Atom girls defeat Toronto to win Ontario championships

first Ontario

The minor atom girls brought gold home from the provincial tournament held in Brantford, Ont. on the weekend.

The Rangers entered the Division 2 championship tournament ranked fourth in their division and 12th in the province.

After a gruelling five-game battle, the Rangers took the title in a tight 44-35 win over Toronto Triple Threat.

The team's road to the top began Friday night also against Triple Threat, with a narrow 49-45 victory.

Saturday brought the fifth-ranked Windsor Valliants upsetting the Rangers in a very physical 43-25 loss.

Undaunted by this temporary setback the Rangers regrouped and although facing elimination, responded with an upset 34-33 win over the number-one ranked tournament favourite, Ancaster Magic, to advance to the Sunday medal round.

After only three years since Jennifer and Bruce Caughill resurrected the Niagara-on-the-Lake Rangers Basketball Association, the minor atom girls have won their



The NOTL Rangers atom girls entered the provincial championship games, held in Brantford, Ont. this weekend, ranked fourth in their division and finished in first place. SUPPLIED PHOTO

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Colavecchia leads Rangers with 73 points

From Page 30

In a back and forth crowd-thrilling semi-final the Rangers continued their winning ways besting North Toronto Huskies 44-40, setting the stage for their gold medal performance over Triple Threat.

"This is a remarkable achievement for this young organization," said Jennifer Caughill, head coach, "and was brought about by a total team effort."

The Rangers were led by Julia Colavecchia with 73 points and 41 rebounds; Maddie Crosbie with 49 points and 31 rebounds; Maevie Martin with 35 points and outstanding ball handling; Ashley Harris with 21 points & 25 rebounds; Olivia Krieger, point guard with 10 points and several assists; Logan Brown with nine points and tough defence; solid boards by Olivia Klassen; multiple blocks and rebounds by Jillian Landry; fantastic defence and speed by Indy de Groot and Emma Martin and solid defence by Maddie Caughill, Kaitlyn Wiens and Stella Wiens, as well as strong support from assistant coaches Gary Crosbie and Briar Krieger.

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The Niagara Rangers Major Atom Boys recently competed in the Blessed Sacrament Tournament held in Hamilton and brought home a gold medal. The Rangers beat out East York 49-29 in the semifinals, and defeated the Whitby Wildcats 36-24 in the gold medal game. Top tournament scorers were Joshua Lahn with 62 points, Darren Johnston with 43, Sam Pynn with 35 points, and Mason MacEachern with 18 points. Pictured, Austin Cooper (left front), Sam Pynn, Devin Voordouw, Nathan Taylor, Ethan Taylor, and Coach Chris MacEachern (back), Mason MacEachern, Ben MacDonald, Steven Christie, Darren Johnston, Joshua Lahn, Rashone Henry and Coach Derek Lahn. SUPPLIED PHOTO

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Blades capture championship

Fourth league win for NOTL adult hockey team

After an adversity-filled regular season that included several injuries, the Niagara-on-the-Lake Blades of Steel have captured their fourth consecutive championship in the St. Catharines Adult Hockey League with a 4-3 win over the Thunder.

Led by a defensive core headlined by veteran Greg Floris and a relentless offensive attack that featured Devin Sartor and Steve Walters, the Blades battled their way to the championship game after a tough two-game series semi-final.

The series was highlighted by a spectacular goal by Travis Kaszycki with seconds remaining on the clock that sealed game one.

In the championship game, the Blades saw a familiar foe as the Thunder arrived at the Seymour-Hannah Complex in St. Catharines looking for revenge after the two met during last season's playoffs.

During a first period that was mostly controlled by the Blades, the team found themselves trailing with a minute remaining. However, after a spectacular breakout pass by Greg Floris found the tape of Cole Sartor, momentum shifted. Sartor found Ryan Fowler in the offensive zone who made a slick cross-crease pass to

Garret Kaszycki for the tap-in. The score was tied and the Blades never looked back.

Early in the second period after a nice defensive zone play by Greg Litke saw the puck chipped off the glass and out, the Blades scored a second goal as Devin Sartor raced up the left wing and danced through the defence before putting the Blades up for good.

The Thunder found themselves in penalty trouble and the Blades' power play was given an opportunity. Clint Kotesky kept the play alive, until a beautiful pass found Travis Kaszycki at the side of the Thunder net for a 3-1 lead.

The Blades would add a



The Blades of Steel have won their league division championship for the fourth consecutive year. SUPPLIED PHOTO

fourth goal early in the third period as Kevin Floris led an offensive rush before Fowler buried the eventual game-winning goal.

As the third period con-

tinued, the Blades found themselves in penalty trouble and after two quick goals against, the game would once again come down to the final seconds. A heroic

shot block from Matt Ferguson with seconds remaining on the clock helped preserve the lead and allowed the Blades to bring home the championship.

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all telling and missed with a grief
beyond all tears.

We love you
swathheart and
know that you
are not far away.



Nana and Mungo

WATSON, Melvin "Roy" - At the St. Catharines General Hospital on March 24, 2013 at the age of 85 years. Loving husband of 66 years to Elvira. Dear father of Ronald (Colleen), Timothy (Nancy), the late Bob (1998), and daughter-in-law Margaret Watson. He will be missed by grandchildren, great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews. Brother of Lillian Knisley, Carolyn Loughlin, Joyce Watson and the late Bill Watson, Bertie Quinn and Harry Watson. Family received friends at the **MORGAN FUNERAL HOME**, 415 Regent St., on Tuesday March 26th, from 7-9 p.m. and on Wednesday from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Funeral service was held in the funeral home chapel on Wednesday at 1 p.m. Interment followed at Niagara Lakeshore Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Kidney Foundation of Canada or to the Canadian Lung Association. Memories, photos and condolences may be shared at www.morganfuneral.com

A Memorial Service has been made to



Thank You Notes

Thank You Notes

On March 9, 2013 a Memorial was held for Edith Thalmann at the Pillar & Post, Family and Friends gathered in the Library - a very special place for Edith and myself. Many thanks to Jamie and the staff at the Pillar & Post for the delicious spread that was appreciated by all.

Special thanks to my daughters, Cheryl (for her wonderful speech), Tammy, Sue, Dan, Kevin and Jeff for all their help in various ways. Thanks to Art Viola, former Mayor NOTL, for his wonderful poem. All of them - with their memories made this afternoon very special for me. Many Thanks.

Tova Thalmann



DAVIS, Gordon Alexander

1934-2013

Gordon Alexander Davis (78) of Niagara Falls, formerly of Queenston, long-time owner with his late wife Marguerite (nee Marshall) of the Elliott Tavern in Niagara Falls passed away March 20, 2013 in Walland Ontario. Gord is survived by two sons Wade (Sandra) of Queenston and Glen (Christine) of Virgil; a sister Doreen Bodie of Sydney Australia and grandsons Tyler, Joshua, Owen, Quentin and Miller, predeceased by granddaughter Claire Marguerite Davis. Gord, as he was best known, remained a presence in the Niagara hospitality industry, as a representative of the Great Lakes Brewing Co., after the sale of the tavern. Before his passing, Gord made note of this pride in his boys, Wade and Glen and his love for his grandchildren. He also extended his utmost gratitude to Russ Hamilton, for being such a faithful and trusted friend all these years. As per his wishes, cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life for Gord will be held on Sunday, April 14, 2013 at Grand Central Sports (formerly the Elliott Tavern), 4573 Queen Street, Niagara Falls from 3 - 6 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Niagara-on-the-Lake Minor Hockey Association.

Thank You Notes

Thank You Notes

With Special Thanks

Barbara Charnock and family would like to express appreciation and gratitude to friends, extended family and business acquaintances of the late John Charnock for their gestures of support and sympathy. Thanks also to the staff at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Hospital, Chateau Gardens and Greater Niagara General Hospital for their dedication to John's care.

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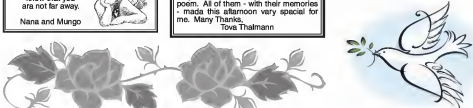
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Close, physical game



All Green Irrigation peewee defenceman Caleb McCarthy fires a beautiful shot from outside visiting Whitby's blue line Saturday and scores just below the crossbar. It was a textbook play and opened up the scoring 1-0 for the NOTL Wolves. Nick Frendo (right) body checks Whitby's captain with support from Brock Gula and Colby Ostromecki. The game remained physical and even for both teams with Whitby winning 3-2. Robbie Falk scored NOTL's second goal, with assists going to Mitchel Brown, Halden O'Toole, Gula and Nick Frendo. SUPPLIED PHOTO

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